

Searching for extraterrestrial life

DEOXYs

is a new Pokémon character in the Trading Card Game, and there is real world science behind its story.

For more real science visit:
<http://ksnn.larc.nasa.gov/pokemon>

PURPOSE

To create pictures to represent life on Earth

BACKGROUND

Pioneers 10 and 11 both carried small metal plaques, cosmic greeting cards with a message for any spacefarers that might find them. Voyagers 1 and 2 carry the Golden Record, a 12-inch gold-plated copper disk containing sounds and images selected to portray the diversity of life and culture on Earth. More than 100 images and natural sounds, such as those made by surf, wind, thunder, birds, whales, and other animals are found on this record. To this they added musical selections from different cultures and eras, and spoken greetings from Earth-people in fifty-five languages.

PROCEDURE

1. Analyze the drawings on the Pioneers 10 and 11 plaques.
2. Create your own drawings to depict important information about Earth.
3. Trade drawings with a friend.
4. Try to interpret your friend's drawing. Record your ideas.
5. When you're both finished, share your ideas. Compare what you thought to what was intended.
6. Post your drawings for others to see.

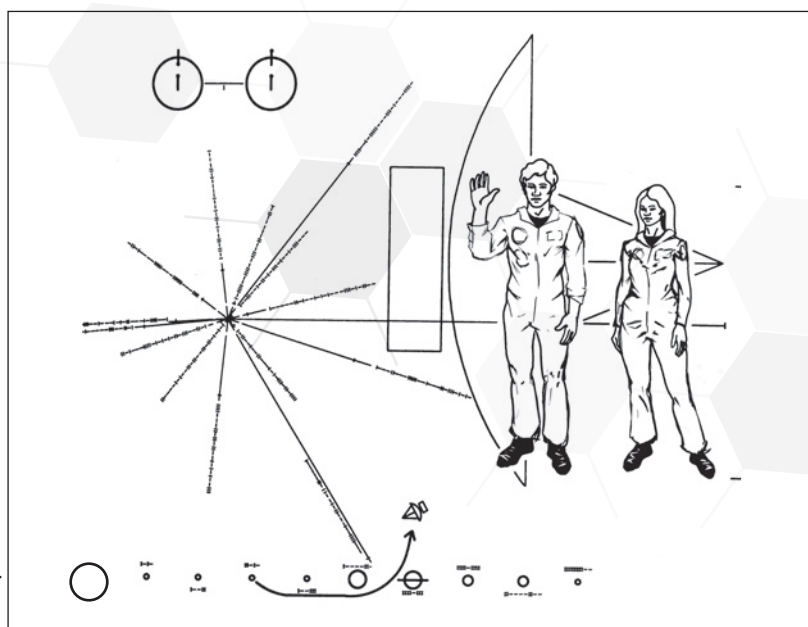
CONCLUSION

1. Did everyone interpret the Pioneer drawings the same way? What were some common interpretations?
2. Was it difficult to decide what to include in your own drawing? What made you choose certain drawings?
3. Why are "words" not included in the drawing?
4. Are there any "universal" symbols that mean the same thing to everyone? What makes them "universal?"

EXTENSIONS

1. Sounds were recorded on a phonograph record and sent into space on Voyagers 1 and 2. Create your own audio tape filled with sounds that reflect important information about Earth.
2. Create a video tape of important images that reflect life on Earth.
3. Share your audio and video tapes with others.

Plaque found on Pioneers 10 and 11



This image has been modified for a younger viewing audience.

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DEOXYs
POKÉMON
TRADING CARD GAME

MATERIALS

Plaque drawing
Paper
Markers and
colored pencils

